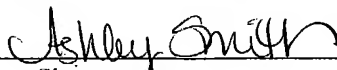


Date: July 30, 2003 Label No. EV306611785US

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Ashley Smith  
Name (Print)

  
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Raymond J. WONG	)	Docket No.: 3191-003-01
Application No.: Unassigned	)	Parent Examiner: Kuhar, Anthony J.
Filed: July 30, 2003	)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
Parent Group Art Unit: 1754	)	Customer No. 33432

For: SODIUM ZIRCONIUM CARBONATE AND ZIRCONIUM BASIC CARBONATE  
AND METHODS OF MAKING THE SAME

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 30, 2003

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and examination of the above-identified application on the merits, applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.